

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

At pages 19, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10 and ending with line 16 as follows:

The material void space is further defined in that it contains pores that interconnect the spherical voids. The void geometry is further defined in that the spherical voids impinge on one another to create faces or pores. The spherical voids have a smooth surface and are between 10 and 300 microns in mean diameter. The interconnecting pores are between 20 and 50% of the spherical void diameter. There are between 1 and 14 interconnecting pores in a cell, i.e., a void. The average number of pores per cell (or void) varies between 1 and 7.